Applicants: U.S.S.N.:

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Amendments to the Specification

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 65, line 19 as follows.

The cell-free assays of the invention are amenable to use of both the soluble form or the membrane-bound form of NOV protein. In the case of cell-free assays comprising the membrane-bound form of NOV protein, it can be desirable to utilize a solubilizing agent such that the membrane-bound form of NOV protein is maintained in solution. Examples of such solubilizing agents include non-ionic detergents such as n-octylglucoside, n-dodecylglucoside, n-dodecylmaltoside, octanoyl-N-methylglucamide, decanoyl-N-methylglucamide, TritonRITON® X-100, TritonRITON® X-114, ThesitHESIT®, Isotridecypoly(ethylene glycol ether)n, N-dodecyl--N,N-dimethyl-3-ammonio-1-propane sulfonate, 3-(3-cholamidopropyl) dimethylamminiol-1-propane sulfonate (CHAPSO).